

Obituary

Darlene Marie Frey, age 81, of Crystal River passed away peacefully with her son by her side on February 16, 2018. Born in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, Darlene met her husband, Matt Frey, at a neighborhood party and it was love at first sight. They were married in 1956 and spent over 50 years together before Matt passed away in 2007.

Matt and Darlene moved to Florida in 1961 to be with his parents, Eldred and Gladys Frey. They loved the Florida climate and decided to make this their forever home. Darlene passionately supported her family, taking care of Gladys when she fell ill, and making a home for her husband and children. They moved to Crystal River in 1979 because of their passion for fishing.

Darlene and Matt had 3 children together, Danny Frey, who passed away in 1994, Terri Frey Maxwell (53) of Dallas, TX and Michael Frey (48) of Crystal River. Darlene supported her children's passion for sports and often served as the club mom for several youth sports teams. Her favorite nickname was "Mom Darlene."

After Matt passed away, Darlene decided to make the most of the time she had left. She played often with 3 of her grand children Dayna Elliott, Adam and Emily Smith, and cherished their after school time together. She was visited by her daughter, Terri, and her daughter in law, Margaret Maton. She especially enjoyed spending time with her other beloved grandchildren from Georgia, Leslie Maton Kilpatrick, Cody Edwards, and Angelica Hope Fall, all of whom she loved dearly. Recently Angelica blessed Darlene with a great granddaughter, Savannah Fall, who brought incredible joy to Darlene. One of the family's favorite pictures was of Darlene playing with Savannah just a month before her passing.

Darlene loved to visit her many friends at the American Legion, where she enjoyed a cold beer and lots of hugs. She lived life with an indomitable spirit and a hearty laugh.

As her health failed over the last few years, her son Michael was by her side giving her both comfort and care. A private ceremony will be held in Ozella, which was Matt and Darlene's favorite place to visit. In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations to the Crystal River American Legion Post 155, www.Flpost155.org.

Private cremation is under the direction of Brown Funeral Home & Crematory in Lecanto, FL.

Brown Funeral Home & Crematory
5430 W. Gulf to Lake Hwy.
Lecanto, Florida 34461
352-795-0111